



SIRTF launch delayed, GALEX on track

All-American Picnic 5 days away

▲ **ELV Update:** The launch of the Space Infrared Telescope Facility (**SIRTF**) has been postponed until no earlier than mid-August. The time is needed to replace one of the nine solid rocket motors attached to the Delta II launch vehicle. The **GALEX** (Galaxy Evolution Explorer) mission is on schedule for launch on a Pegasus rocket April 28.

▲ **Remember, the KSC All American Picnic is less than a week away** – don't delay, get those tickets now. For your convenience KSC All American Picnic Tickets are being sold daily in the KSC and CCAFS cafeterias during lunch time to make sure all employees get an opportunity to buy as many as they need.

An added feature: **Win a Visitor Complex tour ticket at EEAW.** Stop by the EEAW Welcome Table to view the exhibits on April 22 - 23 and put your name in for a drawing for a free Visitor Complex Tour ticket donated by Delaware North/ Visitor Complex. Ticket includes a KSC tour of the restricted area, IMAX films and all Visitor Complex shows, exhibits and attractions. One winner per day; the winner will be notified each day after 3 p.m. Visit the EEAW Web site <http://environmental.ksc.nasa.gov/eeaw/eeaw2003/index.htm> to search the exhibits and exhibitors, tours, presentations, Opening Ceremony, dates/times of events and more.

◆ **Administrator to hold televised meeting:** NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe will be holding a "Town Hall" meeting Wednesday, April 23, at 3:30 p.m. The event will be aired on NASA television.

◆ **Space Congress** – The 40th Annual Space Congress set for April 29-May 1 at the Radisson Resort in Cape Canaveral has assembled panel sessions and guest speakers to complement its theme, "Linking the Past to the Future – a Celebration of Space." NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe is this year's keynote speaker and will open the first day of panel and paper sessions. He will address the 40th anniversary of

Kennedy Space Center and reflect on the accomplishments of the space program. The final day's first panel session, titled "Linking the Past to the Future," marks the 40 years of history at KSC, the 100 years of flight, and thoughts on what the next decade will bring. It will be chaired by Director of External Relations & Business Development JoAnn Morgan. "An Evening With The Astronauts" completes the day's events and will be hosted by KSC Director Roy Bridges Jr.

◆ **NASA plans TV coverage of International Space Station crew rotation** – Extensive coverage is planned for the launch and arrival of the Expedition 7 crew to the ISS. Commander Yuri Malenchenko and Flight Engineer/Science Officer Ed Lu will launch April 25 aboard a Russian Soyuz spacecraft from the Baikonur Cosmodrome, Kazakhstan. Live coverage begins at 11 p.m. EDT. Live docking coverage begins 1 a.m. EDT April 28. On May 4, the Expedition 6 crew will return to Earth in the Soyuz, landing in Kazakhstan, to complete their more than five-month mission. For more details about live coverage of events, go to http://www.nasa.gov/home/HP_news_03127.html.

◆ **Did You Know? KSC Roads Projects has a home-page** -- Need to know more about road delays around the Kennedy Space Center? The KSC Road Projects Web site, at <http://kscroadprojects.ksc.nasa.gov>, will provide you with up-to-date information about construction dates, lane closures and other road restrictions. When necessary, at least one map of each affected area will be provided to help you plan daily operations and travels around KSC. The maps in the Active Project matrix will be updated weekly to show you the progress of each project. Currently, the website is limited to road construction but in the future it may be expanded to address other high impact projects (road/lane closures, utility outages, etc.).

KSC Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday.

Deadlines: 10 a.m. Mondays & Wednesdays. Send information, comments or questions to:

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Find KSC Countdown on the Internet at <http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/ksccount/2003.htm>